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F O R Y O U R I N V O L V E M E N T

FACT SHEET NUMBER 11 • JULY 1996



## ROSS COMPLEX SUPERFUND REMOVED FROM EPA LIST

*The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to delete the Bonneville Power Administration Ross Complex Superfund Site from the National Priority List (NPL). EPA, in conjunction with the Washington State Department of Ecology, has determined that as a result of the cleanup actions taken at this site, the BPA Ross Complex does not pose a threat to public health or the environment.*

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO DELETE

The Notice of Intent to Delete, which explains EPA's decision to delist, was published in the

July 18, 1996, Federal Register. The Notice of Intent to Delete is available, along with other detailed information concerning this site, at the information repository located at the Fort Vancouver Regional Library located at 1007 East Mill Plain Blvd., in Vancouver, Wash.

The public is invited to comment on the proposed decision to delete this site from the NPL. The public comment period will last until August 17, 1996. Written comments should be sent to:

Nancy Harney, Project Manager  
U.S. EPA Region 10, ECL-111  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, Wash. 98101

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## BACKGROUND

The Ross Complex is an active facility that has been owned and operated by the BPA since 1939 to coordinate the distribution of hydroelectric power generated by the Federal Columbia River Power System. Maintenance activities at the Ross Complex involved handling transformer oils containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and organic and inorganic compounds associated with the storage of preserved wood transmission poles, paints, solvents, and waste oils. Testing and laboratory activities included the use of heavy metals and other organic and inorganic compounds.

The site was listed on the NPL in November 1989 based on the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in groundwater and the site's proximity to the City of Vancouver's drinking water supply. As a result of the listing, and pursuant to a Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) signed by BPA, EPA and Ecology on May 1, 1990, BPA conducted a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site and to evaluate alternatives for cleanup of contaminated areas.

The site was divided into two separate operable units. The cleanup actions for Operable Unit A (OUA) were completed by January, 1996. These actions included the bioremediation and capping of soils contaminated with pentachlorophenol (PCP) and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in the Wood Pole Storage Area East, and excavation and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils from the Ross Substation and Capacitor Yard and the Capacitor Testing Laboratory.

The cleanup actions for OUB were completed in September, 1994. A cap or cover was constructed on a old dump site known as the Fog Chamber Dump Trench Area 1 to contain the contaminated soils. Cleanup action was not required for groundwater, the Cold Creek Fill soils, Cold Creek and Burnt Bridge Creek surface water or sediments. Although no source of groundwater contamination was identified during the investigation, the shallow perched groundwater and the deep aquifer will be monitored to ensure groundwater conditions have remained stable. Institutional controls have been imposed to restrict land use activities that might disturb subsurface contamination at several of the waste areas around the Ross Complex.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about the site, please call Nancy Harney with EPA at (206) 553-6635 or toll free at (800) 424-4372. You can also contact Tony Morrell, BPA's Project Manager at (360) 418-2884 or toll free at (800) 622-4519.

People with impaired hearing or speech may contact EPA's telecommunications device for the hearing impaired (TDD) at (206) 553-1698. To ensure effective communication with everyone, additional services can be made available to persons with disabilities by calling one of the numbers listed above.

PO Box 3621 Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

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